प्रयास होना चाहिए, इससे सब सहमत हैं। सरकार ने अपने सामने लक्ष्य रखा था कि एक वर्ष में हम एक करोड़ नए रोजगार के अवसर उपलब्ध कराएंगे ...(**व्यवधान**)....

श्री सभापति: आप सुनिए ना ...(**व्यवधान**).... ये क्या बात कर रहे हैं, सुनिए तो सही।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: रोजगार के अवसर उपलब्ध कराने का अर्थ यह नहीं है कि उन लोगों को सरकारी दफ्तरों में नौकरी दे दी जाएगी। ...(**व्यवधान**)....

श्री लालू प्रसाद: कैसे देंगे, यह साफ साफ बता दीजिए।

अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: लालू जी, अर्थव्यवस्था का इस तरह से विकास किया जाएगा कि बिहार में नौकरियां दिखाई देगी।

श्री सभापति: यह तो आप बिहार के साथ पक्षपात कर रहे हैं...(**व्यवधान**)....

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: सभापति महोदय, एक बार इस पर विस्तार से चर्चा हो चुकी है और मैंनें आंकड़े प्रस्तुत किए थे। इस समय वे आंकड़े मेरे पास उपलब्ध नहीं है। मैंने उन आंकड़ों के द्वारा सदन में यह बताया था कि 80 लाख लोगों को रोजगार के नए अवसर दिए गए हैं और इसका विवरण हमारे पास तैयार है...(**व्यवधान**).... हर साल एक करोड़ रोजगार के नए अवसर दिए जाएंगे मैं इसके विस्तार में नहीं जाना चाहता लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि हम आपने वायदे पर कायम है और इसे हम जरूर पूरा करेंगे।

श्री सुरेश पचौरी: सभापति महोदय, अनइम्प्लायमेंट की समस्या का डिस्कशन करा दीजिए. ..(**व्यवधान**)....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question, Shrimati Vanga Geetha.

* 67. [*The Questioner (Shrimati Vanga Geetha) was absent. For answer vide pages 29-30.*]

Roads in Tamil Nadu

*68. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total length of roads Government have proposed to include as National Highways in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) the particulars of such roads?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (d) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) There is a ban on declaration of new National Highways due to financial constraints. As such, all proposals in this regard received from the State Government have been returned.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Since the time available is very short, I want to put the question directly. It is not an administative decision. It is a policy decision. I want to know whether it has been informed to Parliament, and, if so, when. I also want to know what is the total length of roads sought for by the State Government to be declared as National Highways.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Sir, the problem regarding National Highways should be understood by the House as also the reason why we have, at the moment, temporarily suspended this. Sir, I wish to inform the House that at the time of Independence, in 1947, this country has 21,378 kilometres of National Highways only. In 50 years, i.e. from 1947-1997, only 12,920 kilometres were added. Government in five years period, has added 23,814 kilometres. Therefore, if you compare 50 years' performance with that of the last five years, it was 12,000 kilometres and now it is 24,000 kilometres. Therefore, it is not proper to say that we are not doing it. The second thing that I want to say, Sir. is that for converting and upgrading each kilometre of the State Highways to National Highways standard, I need an amount of Rs.s 1-1.5 crores per k.m. Today, I have about 42,000 kilometres of demand pending from all the States. If we have to take up works on these 42,000 kilometres, I need Rs. Rs. 42,000 crores at one go.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is right. Question Hour is over.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: The Planning Commission is unable to give this money, and, therefore, at the moment, we cannot take up the entire work.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.